

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A manufacturing method of laminates comprising:
 - a first step of preparing a first laminate containing polyolefin by stacking a plurality of sheet materials, each having asperities on a surface thereof in part; and
 - a second step of obtaining a second laminate by having said first laminate sandwiched between an upper rigid body forming a cavity containing a first elastic body and a lower rigid body forming a cavity containing a second elastic body that are located opposite to each other or between opposing preheated elastic bodies and then by having a pressing force applied thereto together with heating said first laminate at a temperature higher than the temperature at which the polyolefin is softened,
 - wherein said first laminate is being maintained in a depressurized atmosphere prior to and during application of said pressing force in said second step, and
 - ~~wherein a center portion of the upper rigid body is made movable so as to press the first elastic body into contact with the upper surface of the first laminate, and~~
 - ~~wherein a center portion of the lower rigid body is made movable so as to press the second elastic body into contact with the lower surface of the first laminate~~
 - wherein the first elastic body covers an upper surface and portion of the outside perimeter of the first laminate, and
 - wherein the second elastic body covers a lower surface and portion of the outside perimeter of the first laminate.
2. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein said elastic bodies have heat resistant characteristic.

3. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein said elastic body is more thick than said first laminate.

4. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein said elastic bodies have a larger surface area than said first laminate such that edges of said elastic bodies extend beyond edges of said first laminate.

5. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein a contact area of said elastic body with said first laminate is not adhesive to said first laminate.

6. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein a flat elastic non-adhesive film is inserted between said elastic body and said first laminate.

7. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 6, wherein a surface area of said non-adhesive film is made larger than a contact area with said first laminate.

8. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 7, wherein said non-adhesive film has heat resistant characteristic.

9. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein a pressing force is applied to said first laminate with a side surface thereof covered with a framework in said second step.

10. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 9, wherein an inner peripheral configuration of said framework is made larger than an outer peripheral configuration of said first laminate.

11. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 9, wherein said framework has elastic characteristic.

12. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 9, wherein a height of said framework is equal to a thickness of said first laminate or lower.

13. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 9, wherein said framework has heat resistant characteristic.

14-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein said pressing force application in said second step is carried out after an atmospheric pressure around said first laminate is reduced to 80 hPa or lower.

17. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein said sheet material is formed of a green sheet and an internal electrode layer.

18. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 17, wherein said green sheet is formed of polyolefin and an inorganic powder.

19. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 18, wherein said first laminate is heated to a temperature, at which polyolefin is softened, or higher in said second step.

20. (Previously presented) Pressing force application equipment comprising:
a first pressing force application member with a first elastic body provided inside of a first rigid body; and a second pressing force application member with a second elastic body provided inside of a second rigid body, wherein said first pressing force application member and second pressing force application member are arranged so as to have said first elastic body and second elastic body located opposite to each other, and also at least one of said first pressing force application member and second pressing force application member is made movable,

said first rigid body having a first air outlet for evacuating gases and a first elastic frame member disposed on a lower surface thereof, and said second rigid body having a second air outlet for evacuating gases and a second elastic frame member disposed on an upper surface thereof,

wherein said pressing force application equipment applies a pressing force before a pressed body is heated at the temperature higher than the softening temperature of polyolefin contained in the pressed body, and

wherein at least one of said first elastic frame member and second elastic frame member is pressed into contact with the other elastic frame member.

21-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously presented) The pressing force application equipment according to Claim 20, wherein said first elastic body is held by a supporter provided on inner wall surfaces of said first rigid body and left under a floating state against said inner wall surfaces at other places.

24. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein maintaining said first laminate in a depressurized atmosphere operates to remove substantially all gas from said first laminate.

25. (Currently amended) A manufacturing method of laminates comprising:

a first step of preparing a first laminate containing an organic substance by stacking a plurality of sheet materials, each having asperities on a surface thereof in part; and

a second step of obtaining a second laminate by having said first laminate sandwiched between an upper rigid body forming a cavity containing a first elastic body and a lower rigid body forming a cavity containing a second elastic body that are located opposite to each other or between opposing preheated elastic bodies and then by having a pressing force applied thereto,

wherein said first laminate is ~~being~~ maintained in a depressurized atmosphere prior to and during application of said pressing force in said second step,

wherein, when said pressing force is applied to said first elastic body, said first elastic body covers an upper surface and portion of the outside perimeter ~~a side surface~~ of said first laminate, and

wherein, when said pressing force is applied to said second elastic body, said second elastic body covers a lower surface and portion of the outside perimeter ~~said side surface~~ of said first laminate.

26. (Currently amended) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 25, wherein, when said pressing force is applied to the first said elastic body and the second elastic body, ~~said the first elastic body and the second elastic body cover~~ ~~covers~~ all side surfaces of said first laminate.

27. (Previously presented) A manufacturing method of laminates comprising:
a first step of preparing a first laminate containing an organic substance by stacking a plurality of sheet materials, each having asperities on a surface thereof in part; and
a second step of preparing a second laminate containing an organic substance by stacking a plurality of sheet materials, each having asperities on a surface thereof in part; and
a third step of obtaining a third laminate by having said first laminate sandwiched between a first elastic body and a steel plate, and obtaining a fourth laminate by having said second laminate sandwiched between a second elastic body and said steel plate, and then by having a pressing force applied thereto,

said first laminate and second laminate being maintained in a depressurized atmosphere prior to and during application of said pressing force in said third step,

wherein, when said pressing force is applied to said first elastic body and second elastic body, said first elastic body covers an upper surface and at least one side surface of said first laminate, and

wherein said second elastic body covers a lower surface and at least one side surface of said second laminate.

28. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 27, wherein, when said pressing force is applied to the first said elastic body and the second elastic body, said the first elastic body and the second elastic body cover ~~eovers~~ all side surfaces of said first laminate.

29. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein said first laminate has a porosity of 30% or higher.

30. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein the effective number of green sheet layers of said first laminate is 50 or more.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently amended) A manufacturing method of laminates comprising:

a first step of preparing a first laminate containing polyolefin by stacking a plurality of sheet materials, each having asperities on a surface thereof in part; and

a second step of obtaining a second laminate by having said first laminate sandwiched between an upper rigid body forming a cavity containing a first elastic body and a lower rigid body comprising a cavity forming a second elastic body that are located opposite to each other or between opposing preheated elastic bodies and then by having a pressing force applied thereto together with heating said first laminate at a temperature higher than the temperature at which the polyolefin is softened,

wherein said first laminate ~~is being~~ maintained in a depressurized atmosphere prior to and during application of said pressing force in said second step, ~~and~~

wherein a first non-adhesive film is formed on the upper surface of said first laminate and a second non-adhesive film is formed on the lower surface of said first laminate, ~~and~~

~~wherein a center portion of the upper rigid body is made movable so as to press the first elastic body into contact with said first non-adhesive film, and~~

~~wherein a center portion of the lower rigid body is made movable so as to press the second elastic body into contact with said second non-adhesive film~~

wherein the first elastic body covers an upper surface and portion of the outside perimeter of the first laminate, and

wherein the second elastic body covers a lower surface and portion of the outside perimeter of the first laminate.

33. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein said upper surface of said first laminate fully covers the plurality of sheet materials formed beneath said upper surface such that none of the plurality of sheet materials formed beneath said upper surface are exposed via the upper surface of the first laminate.

34. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to claim 1, wherein said upper surface of said first laminate has a substantially rectangular shape.

35. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to claim 32, wherein said upper surface of said first laminate has a substantially rectangular shape.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Previously presented) Pressing force application equipment comprising:

a first pressing force application member with an elastic body provided inside of a first rigid body; and a second pressing force application member, wherein said first pressing force application member and second pressing force application member are arranged so as to have said elastic body located between said first and second pressing force application members, and also at least one of said first pressing force application member and second pressing force application member is made movable,

said first rigid body having a first air outlet for evacuating gases and a first elastic frame member disposed on a lower surface thereof, and said second rigid body having a second air outlet for evacuating gases and a second elastic frame member disposed on an upper surface thereof,

wherein said pressing force application equipment applies a pressing force before a pressed body is heated at the temperature higher than the softening temperature of polyolefin contained in the pressed body, and

wherein at least one of said first elastic frame member and second elastic frame member is pressed into contact with the other elastic frame member.

38. (Currently amended) A manufacturing method of laminates comprising:

a first step of preparing a first laminate containing polyolefin by stacking a plurality of sheet materials, each having asperities on a surface thereof in part; and

a second step of obtaining a second laminate by having said first laminate sandwiched between an upper rigid body forming a cavity containing an elastic body and a lower rigid body, and then by having a pressing force applied thereto together with heating said first laminate at a temperature higher than the temperature at which the polyolefin is softened,

wherein said first laminate ~~is being~~ maintained in a depressurized atmosphere prior to and during application of said pressing force in said second step, ~~and~~

wherein a first non-adhesive film is formed on the upper surface of said first laminate and a second non-adhesive film is formed on the lower surface of said first laminate, ~~and~~

~~wherein a center portion of the upper rigid body is made movable so as to press said elastic body into contact with said first non-adhesive film.~~

39. (New) A manufacturing method of laminates comprising:

a first step of preparing a first laminate containing polyolefin by stacking a plurality of sheet materials, each having asperities on a surface thereof in part; and

a second step of obtaining a second laminate by having the first laminate sandwiched between an rigid body forming a cavity containing an elastic body and a steel plate and then by having a pressing force applied to the rigid body and heating the first laminate at a temperature higher than the temperature at which the polyolefin is softened.

40. (New) The manufacturing method of laminates of claim 39, wherein

the first laminate is maintained in a depressurized atmosphere prior to and during application of the pressing force in the second step.

41. (New) The manufacturing method of laminates of claim 39, wherein the first laminate is in contact with the upper surface of the steel plate.

42. (New) The manufacturing method of laminates of claim 27, wherein said first laminate is directly sandwiched between said first elastic body and said steel plate, and said second laminate is directly sandwiched between said second elastic body and said steel plate.